

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN APRIL 2002

The reported domestic primary aluminum production in April was 216,237 metric tons (t). The average daily production rate was 7,208 t, slightly higher than that of the previous month but 4% below the rate for April 2001.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased slightly from 66.50 cents per pound in March to 66.06 cents per pound in April, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) fluctuated during the month of April. On April 3, the price range increased from 48 to 49 cents per pound to 49 to 50.5 cents per pound. On April 17, the price range fell back to 48 to 49 cents per pound. On April 24, the price range increased to 49 to 51 cents per pound where it remained through the end of the month. According to

Resource Recycling's Container Recycling Report, the average monthly transaction price for aluminum UBCs decreased from 51.3 cents per pound in March to 50.6 cents per pound in April.

Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased from 66.06 cents per pound in April to 65.45 cents per pound in May. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs decreased twice during the month of May. On May 2, the price range fell by a penny to 48 to 50 cents per pound, and on May 21, the price range decreased by another penny to 47 to 49 cents per pound. The price range remained at this level through the end of the month.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery 2/			Imports for consumption			Total new supply 3/	Total stocks, end of period 4/
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2001: p/	2,637	1,880	1,260	3,140	2,560	683	3,240	9,020	1,300
2001:									
April	225	149	105	254	197	62	258	737	1,590
May	229	160	104	263	209	58	267	760	1,570
June	215	156	105	261	179	55	235	710	1,470
July	214	152	109	262	201	55	257	733	1,450
August	212	166	110	276	198	57	254	742	1,420
September	206	159	106	265	252	56	308	779	1,390
October	214	172	112	284	220	58	278	777	1,360
November	208	152	106	258	248	57	305	771	1,310
December	205	133	94	227	227	44	271	703	1,300
January-April	934	632	412	1,040	827	242	1,070	3,050	1,590
2002:									
January	210	146 r/	102 r/	248 r/	272	58	330	788 r/	1,380
February	197	141 r/	93 r/	235 r/	205	52	257	689 r/	1,270 r/
March	220	154 r/	99 r/	253 r/	233	62	285	758	1,270
April	216	148	97	245	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-April	844	589	392	981	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised. NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

3/ Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

4/ Includes scrap; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
2001: p/	2,050	1,530	908	789	777	716	107	96	6	6	3,850	3,140
2001:												
April	163	122	79	69	59	55	9	8	(2/)	(2/)	311	254
May	177	133	71	61	66	60	9	8	(2/)	(2/)	323	263
June	169	127	72	62	69	63	10	8	1	1	319	261
July	163	121	83	72	68	62	6	5	1	1	319	262
August	172	128	81	71	73	68	10	9	(2/)	(2/)	337	276
September	170	128	78	68	66	61	9	7	1	1	324	265
October	186	139	80	70	69	63	12	11	1	1	348	284
November	171	127	74	64	61	56	10	9	1	1	317	258
December	163	120	62	54	50	46	8	7	(2/)	(2/)	284	227
January-April	678	511	307	266	255	236	32	29	2	2	1,270	1,040
2002:												
January	150 r/	111 r/	80	69 r/	62 r/	57 r/	11	10	(2/)	(2/)	303 r/	248 r/
February	146 r/	108 r/	69 r/	60 r/	61 r/	56 r/	11	10	(2/)	(2/)	287 r/	235 r/
March	152 r/	113 r/	79 r/	69 r/	64 r/	60 r/	12	11	(2/)	(2/)	308 r/	253 r/
April	149	111	75	65	63	58	12	11	(2/)	(2/)	299	245
January-April	597	444	302	263	250	231	46	41	2	2	1,200	981

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN APRIL 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	124,000	149,000	92,200	111,000
Integrated aluminum companies	74,800	74,800	65,000	65,000
Independent mill fabricators	52,200	62,600	48,200	57,900
Foundries	10,200	12,300	9,210	11,100
Other consumers	361	433	361	433
Total	262,000	299,000	215,000	245,000

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	April			January-April 2/		
	Stocks, opening r/	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Solids	25,700	79,500	75,300	29,900	307,000	305,000
Can stock clippings	2,590	21,100	19,400	4,320	73,000	71,600
Other clippings	6,510	11,100	11,100	6,500	44,100	44,500
Borings and turnings	3,980	19,500	19,100	4,340	77,000	76,600
Dross and skimmings	2,710	34,000	34,000	2,710	136,000	136,000
Total new scrap	41,500	165,000	159,000	47,700	637,000	634,000
Old scrap:						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	10,000	32,200	32,100	10,100	129,000	129,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,500	2,600	2,540	1,550	9,600	10,000
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	29,000	59,900	57,700	31,300	232,000	233,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	4,210	8,420	9,190	3,440	34,600	36,800
Total old scrap	44,800	103,000	102,000	46,400	405,000	409,000
Sweated pig	161	1,090	1,090	161	4,350	4,350
Total all classes	86,400	269,000	262,000	94,300	1,050,000	1,050,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

3/ Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

	April				January-April 3/	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	4,540 r/	1,490	1,520	4,500	7,040	7,090
380 and variations	5,700 r/	33,100	33,500	5,380	132,000	131,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,190 r/	4,060	4,080	3,170	16,400	16,400
No. 319 and variations	9,990 r/	11,100	11,200	9,930	44,600	45,600
F-132 alloy and variations	1,970 r/	2,310	2,310	1,970	9,250	9,160
Al-Zn alloys	630	59	59	630	235	321
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	91	168	168	91	673	673
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	--	191	191	--	764	764
Other 4/	4,750 r/	9,700	9,720	4,720	37,000	37,700
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	10,200 r/	17,200	17,200	10,200	68,800	68,900
Total all alloys	41,100 r/	79,400	79,800	40,600	317,000	318,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	5,870	XX	XX	22,900	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	3,600	XX	XX	14,100	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	615	XX	XX	2,420	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot 5/	XX	69,300	XX	XX	278,000	XX

r/ Revised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

1/ Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

2/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

4/ Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

5/ No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN MARCH 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	March	January- March	March	January- March	March	January- March	March	January- March
Argentina	4,350	23,900	(2/)	(2/)	--	200	4,350	24,100
Australia	7,830	34,400	4	6	--	--	7,830	34,400
Bahrain	339	5,750	689	2,520	--	--	1,030	8,270
Belgium	--	--	704	1,260	--	--	704	1,260
Brazil	2,370	4,630	56	334	--	1,300	2,430	6,270
Canada	132,000	412,000	37,200	104,000	23,800	69,000	193,000	585,000
France	44	210	589	1,040	375	1,680	1,010	2,930
Germany	333	753	4,460	12,800	716	1,830	5,510	15,400
Ghana	--	--	--	--	--	2,240	--	2,240
Hungary	--	--	626	1,520	--	--	626	1,520
Italy	--	--	321	557	--	--	321	557
Japan	36	88	828	2,230	14	56	879	2,380
Korea, Republic of	--	3	254	1,150	--	--	254	1,150
Mexico	252	1,290	1,410	4,130	4,020	14,900	5,680	20,300
Netherlands	54	108	168	800	159	918	381	1,830
Norway	--	69	1	17	--	--	1	86
Russia	59,000	150,000	3,940	9,310	202	4,040	63,100	163,000
South Africa	--	5,480	2,970	7,620	--	8	2,970	13,100
Spain	126	447	21	38	--	--	147	485
Sweden	--	--	278	833	--	44	278	876
Switzerland	--	(2/)	142	326	--	--	142	326
Ukraine	--	--	--	20	--	--	--	20
United Arab Emirates	6,410	16,800	--	--	--	118	6,410	17,000
United Kingdom	75	162	738	2,520	344	1,200	1,160	3,880
Venezuela	9,750	38,400	1,540	4,190	604	1,540	11,900	44,100
Other	136	6,070	4,920	14,800	2,880	9,760	7,930	30,700
Total	223,000	700,000	61,800	172,000	33,100	109,000	318,000	981,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN MARCH 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	March	January-March	March	January-March	March	January-March	March	January-March
Australia	1	1	47	368	--	175	48	544
Belgium	17	37	359	1,500	19	59	395	1,600
Brazil	20	71	4,190	12,100	--	--	4,210	12,200
Canada	7,590	20,200	41,000	111,000	18,600	56,800	67,100	188,000
China	1	14	4,020	9,000	15,700	39,900	19,700	48,900
Czech Republic	--	--	3	4	--	--	3	4
Dominican Republic	--	3	36	203	--	--	36	206
France	1	45	297	1,190	3	3	302	1,230
Germany	237	704	247	718	86	107	571	1,530
Hong Kong	4	66	822	1,370	485	2,070	1,310	3,510
India	6	43	10	48	211	849	227	939
Israel	1	35	71	386	--	--	72	421
Italy	--	3	210	547	--	3	210	554
Japan	300	1,020	748	2,120	3,120	7,750	4,170	10,900
Korea, Republic of	83	219	732	2,970	5,110	15,500	5,920	18,700
Malaysia	--	(2/)	37	130	73	145	110	275
Mexico	7,220	25,200	9,020	25,900	3,610	11,000	19,800	62,200
Netherlands	(2/)	13	67	213	10	50	77	276
Russia	--	19	1	14	9	9	10	42
Saudi Arabia	(2/)	(2/)	2,240	4,140	--	--	2,240	4,140
Singapore	7	11	253	1,340	--	92	260	1,450
Spain	1	14	75	241	185	220	262	475
Sweden	--	--	83	174	--	--	83	174
Taiwan	1	4	556	1,440	1,520	4,690	2,080	6,130
Thailand	--	--	780	2,830	137	280	917	3,110
United Kingdom	74	114	743	2,200	43	373	861	2,690
Venezuela	--	3	734	2,360	--	--	734	2,360
Other	59	93	3,390	7,910	427	1,250	3,870	9,250
Total	15,600	47,900	70,700	192,000	49,300	141,000	136,000	381,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.